

Volunteer Speech 2025

Hi Everyone,

Unfortunately, I'm not able to attend the fun filled gathering and enjoy the delicious spread at this year's 'Volunteer Thank You Tea', that is so kindly hosted by our Social Club every year.

As this tea is about appreciating Volunteers, the Social Club are the first group of volunteers we want to thank. The events they host throughout the year help build a sense of community and friendships among Coventry Woods Owners....Plus they are a lot of fun!

We also have to thank the Social Club for the funds they generously donate for the betterment of our community and our enjoyment.

A round of applause for all their hard work!

This year has been especially challenging, as we no longer have a caretaker on site. Despite this, Coventry Woods has managed the needs of our Community...thanks in large part to the dedication of volunteers.

Council arranged professionals to carry out some work, but it is has been the time and effort donated by our Casual Labour, who are Owners that offered their skills, that have saved Coventry Woods thousands of dollars in labour costs.

Norm Floden, who is skilled in every type of work the complex needs, has spent countless hours carrying out repairs throughout the property, as well as donating the use of his tools and some supplies. As a result, our complex is looking well cared for.

Brian Chapman, looked after our safety by managing the mechanical room and checking on the spa and pool daily. He also helped re-grout the spa and repaired some to the equipment in the Mechanical Room.

We're happy to report Brian is recovering well from his injuries. During his absence Dave Smith preformed the safety checks for us.

Also, it is important to note that much of the time contributed by Norm and Brian was volunteered time.

There have also been volunteers who have picked up the smaller but important jobs, like opening the Clubhouse in the morning, putting out the garbage and recycling, as well as offering their muscle to assist with various repairs around the complex.

Thank you to all the Owners who stepped forward to help run our complex without a caretaker.

(More applause)

We are thankful for the volunteers on our Committees, who generously donate their time to develop projects that are unique to Coventry Woods.

The Major Projects Committee... Ed Kennedy, Brenda Wilson, Dave Cieszecki and Mike O'Connor, deserve special recognition. They have spent countless hours organizing the Unit 1 to 6 Project for Coventry Woods. Even before work on the project began, they spent numerous hours working with the Project Manager planning and developing a budget to complete the project successfully.

Once the project started, Brenda and Ed were visible working on site, meeting with contractors almost daily, troubleshooting issues and carrying out odd jobs, some which were heavy physical work... Monday to Saturday.

The Committee has dedicated countless hours of their personal time to this project. Hiring personnel to perform the work they have carried out would have resulted in significantly higher costs.

We are very thankful for the work they have done and the costs savings which have benefited our community.

Brenda Wilson deserves special mention as an outstanding volunteer for Coventry Woods and Owners.

The extra time and effort she has devoted working on the Unit 1 to 6 project, as well as numerous other work around our complex, has been extraordinary. She is multi-talented and generously donates her time and skill for the benefit of the Coventry Woods community. We owe Brenda many thanks for her hard work.

The Major Projects Committee and Brenda deserves a standing ovation!

Visitors often comment on the beautiful grounds at Coventry Woods. For this, we owe our thanks to the volunteer gardeners, for the countless hours they spend planting and caring for our amazing flower gardens. I believe their work is better than most professional gardeners.

Thank you to the volunteers for collecting recyclable bottles to make sure there is money for our gardeners.

A big thank you for the time consuming work done by volunteers to set-up and maintain the irrigation system essential to keep the gardens and trees thriving.

Thank you to the many volunteers who:

Have helped with the never-ending painting jobs around the complex

Open the Clubhouse in the morning and lock it up at night

Make sure our street lights are burning brightly

Keep us all informed with the Coventry Woods webpage, emails and Owners lists

Officially welcome our new residents

Set up pool furniture and help close the pool area at the end of the season.

Clear clutter that has accumulated in the Complex

Shovel gravel, soil and help with heavy lifting

Dig drainage ditches for our never ending drainage problems

Dave Gieszecki for repairing plumbing needs on our common property

Ben Learn for helping Council with their IT needs

Even if your name or work hasn't been mentioned specifically, please know we appreciate all you do.

Just so you are prepared we will need snow shovelling volunteers this year to shovel the aprons and sidewalks again..

Last but certainly not least, I want to thank our Council Members. They are a special group of Volunteers who care deeply about Coventry Woods and its Owners.

Council Members have spent countless hours identifying and addressing the needs of our Owners and the community. We believe that many of these needs have been met, but there is always more to be done.

Let's give a round of applause for

ALL OUR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS!!!

Well done!!!

Enjoy, Diane

